

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 4, 6, 16-27 allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The reason for allowance of claim 4 has been stated in a previous office action (mailing dates 10/17/2008). Regarding claim 6, the applicants have presented persuasive argument, see page 6 of the response filed on 6/16/2009, that the cited prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest a method of manufacturing a semiconductor device comprises a imitation of " characterized in that the cleaning agent contains only a diluted solution of sulphuric acid in water" in combination with the rest of the limitations of claim 6. Regarding claims 16, 20, the cited prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest a method of manufacturing a semiconductor device comprises a step of forming a conductive layer on the insulating layer/ a step of forming a first metal layer on the insulating layer in combination with the rest of the steps of claims 16/20

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LAN VINH whose telephone number is (571)272-1471. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:30 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nadine Norton can be reached on 571 272 1465. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Lan Vinh/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1792